

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A method for performing handover of a mobile station communicating in a first call via a first network to communication in a second call via a second network, comprising:

generating a request for handover;

establishing the second call between the first network and the mobile station via the second network; and

transferring data communication between the mobile station and the first network from the first call to the second call.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising the step of releasing the first call after data communication between the mobile station and the first network has been transferred from the first call to the second call.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the mobile station generates the request for handover.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the first network generates the request for handover.

5. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the mobile station originates the second call.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein:

the first network transmits to the mobile station data indicating an identification for the handover operation;

the mobile station transmits to the second network data indicating that identification; and

when the second call has been established the second network transmits to the first network data indicating that identification.

Claim 1

7. A method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the first network originates the second call.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the mobile station transmits its identification in the second network to the first network and the first network uses that identification in originating the second call.

9. A method as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ *claim 1*, wherein the geographical coverage of the second network is greater than that of the first network.

10. A method as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ *claim 1*, wherein the first network is an IMT-2000 network.

11. A method as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ *claim 1*, wherein the second network is a PDC network.

12. A method as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ *claim 1*, wherein the first and second networks are cellular telephone networks.

13. A method as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ *claim 1*, wherein the mobile station is capable of communicating by radio with the first and second networks.

14. A method for performing handover substantially as herein described with reference to figures 3 to 7 of the accompanying drawings.

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